

Message Text

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ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

VO-03 SCA-01 ORM-01 SR-02 AID-05 FDRE-00 /068 W

----- 113288

R 130811Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5161

INFO CINCPACREP GUAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 2625

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, VS, TW

SUBJECT: MORE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ARRIVE TAIWAN

REF: A. STATE 109682

B. STATE 107160

CINCPACREP GUAM FOR SENIOR CIVIL COORDINATOR

1. SOME 59 REFUGEES, ALL APPARENTLY ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, WHO WERE PICKED UP BY PANAMA-FLAG MERCHANT FREIGHTER "SINGAPORE", ARRIVED KAOHSIUNG ON MAY 12. THEY WERE REPORTEDLY RESCUED BY THE FREIGHTER ON MAY 6 AND 7, 150 MILES SOUTHEAST OF SAIGON, AFTER DRIFTING ON THE SEA IN TWO SMALL FISHING BOATS AND A YACHT FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK. SOME OF THE REFUGEES REPORTEDLY WISH TO GO TO FRANCE, OTHERS TO THE US.

2. ON MAY 12, VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TSAI WEI-PING RAISED THE QUESTION OF THESE REFUGEES WITH CHARGE, WHO EXPLAINED THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH GENERALLY ACCEPTED INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE, REFUGEES WERE IN FIRST INSTANCE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COUNTRIES IN WHICH THEY SOUGHT REFUGE (PER REF B). TSAI SAID HE WOULD KEEP CHARGE INFORMED OF THE STATUS
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OF THESE REFUGEES AND THEIR DESIRES RE RESETTLEMENT.

3. COMMENT: WE EXPECT MOFA AT A LATER DATE MAY SEEK
OUR AGREEMENT TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THOSE
REFUGEES WHO WISH TO GO TO US. NOTING THAT THE DEPART-
MENT HAS REQUESTED US TO SEEK GROC AGREEMENT TO ACCEPT
ETHNIC CHINESE IN GUAM AND AT A MINIMUM TO REPATRIATE
THOSE DOCUMENTED AS ROC NATIONALS, WE HOPE THAT DEPART-
MENT CAN GIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION TO ASSISTING ROC
WITH REGARD TO THESE REFUGEES IN EVENT THEY PROVE NOT
TO BE ETHNIC CHINESE AND WISH TO GO TO US.
POPPL

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Message Attributes

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